



LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,

Llandrindod Wells.

1st. December, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members.

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report on the Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics of the Urban District for the year 1952.

This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health Circular 2/53 (Wales) and presents briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. E. Jones, M.B., B.S.", written over a faint circular stamp.

Medical Officer of Health.



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LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR
THE YEAR 1952

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of District	... 1509 acres.
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Mid. 1952	... 3286 persons.
No. of Inhabited Houses at the end of the year (including flats)	... 1048 (an addition of 18 in twelve months.)
Rateable Value - 31st December, 1952	... £25,517
Product of Penny rate	... £100. 17. 6.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The natural conditions of the town have been detailed in previous reports and its healthy situation and ideal climatological conditions and purity of air is still unmarred by the smoke laden, grimy and foggy atmospheres of the country's cities.

The Climatological conditions of 1952 were as follows together with a comparison of 1951.

	1951	1952
Total Rainfall	43.77"	38.13"
Highest Maximum Temperature	79 F.	80 F.
Average Maximum Temperature	54 F.	54 F.
Lowest Minimum Temperature	17 F.	14 F.
Average Minimum Temperature	40 F.	38.75 F.
Sunshine Hours	1304.9 hrs.	1325 hrs.

The years weather was on the whole good, whilst extensive floods and severe gales caused great destruction and heavy loss of life and property in parts of the British Isles, Central Wales missed these storms.

Rainfall was less than average and a period of drought was experienced in the summer. Snow fell during the winter whilst not extremely heavy, was persistent and snow was recorded on 34 occasions. Sunshine was slightly above average.

No serious illnesses could be traceable to the weather of the year.

OCCUPATIONS

I have previously reported on the gradual change of the occupations of the town and the trend to occupations other than those of a Health and Holidays resort continue.

The holiday season of 1952 was an improvement on the previous year the visitors staying in the town and those visiting for a day only being noticeably more in number.

Housing conditions did not in any way deteriorate and it was found that the owner occupiers and owners of houses and flat dwellings maintained their properties reasonably habitable.

TABLE 1.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1952

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live Births (Legitimate	45	22	23
(Illegitimate	2	2	-
Still Births	Nil	Nil	Nil
	47	24	23

Birth Rate per 1000 of the Estimated Population:-

Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.3
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

DEATHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
No. of deaths	54	24	30

The death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is:- 16.4

Death rate	1951 - 12.50
	1950 - 10.31
	1949 - 13.38
	1948 - 11.5
	1947 - 12.6

Deaths from Puerperal causes	Nil
Death rate from Puerperal causes	Nil
Death rate of infants under one year of age:-	
Infant deaths under one year	Nil
All infants per 1000 live births	Nil
Legitimate infants per 1000, legitimate births	Nil
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Death from child birth	Nil
Death from malignant diseases	6
Deaths from measles	Nil
Death from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

TABLE 2
STATISTICS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death	M.	F.
All causes	24	30
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	Nil
2. Tuberculosis other	Nil	1
3. Syphilitic disease	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough	1	Nil
6. Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
7. Measles	Nil	Nil
8. Other infective and parasitic diseases	Nil	Nil
9. (i) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	1	1
(ii) " " - Lung bronchus	1	Nil
(iii) " " - breast	Nil	2
(iv) " " - uterus	Nil	1
(v) Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	3
(vi) Lenkaemai Alenkaemia	1	Nil
10. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	1	7
11. Diabetes	Nil	Nil
12. Coronary disease, angina	1	1
13. Hypertensia with heart disease	1	Nil
14. Other heart disease	5	8
15. Other circulatory disease	Nil	Nil
16. Influenza	Nil	Nil
17. Pneumonia	Nil	Nil
18. Bronchitis	3	2
19. Other diseases of respiratory system	Nil	Nil
20. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	1	Nil
21. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	Nil	1
22. Nephritis and nephrosis	Nil	1
23. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	Nil
24. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil	Nil
25. Congenital malformations	Nil	Nil
26. Other defined and illdefined diseases	2	2
27. Motor Vehicle Accidents	Nil	Nil
28. All other accidents	Nil	Nil
29. Suicide	Nil	Nil
30. Homicide and operations of War	Nil	Nil

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Public Officers:-

Medical Officer of Health (Part time)
J. Emrys Jenkins, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.

Sanitary Inspector (Part time)
R. J. Morris, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.I., Cert. S.I.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES

- (a) The examination and analysis of water, sewage effluents and stream contamination are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County Laboratories, Carmarthen. Analyst - H. J. Evans.
- (b) The examination of milk and ice-cream samples are carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Shrewsbury Infirmary.

3. HEALTH SERVICES. The following services are carried out by the Radnorshire County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

- (i) Maternity and Child Welfare.
- (ii) Clinics.
- (iii) Dental care for expectant mothers and nursing mothers and young children together with School Dental Services.
- (iv) Midwives Service, delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Assoc.
- (v) Health Visiting delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Assoc.
- (vi) Home Nursing delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Assoc.
- (vii) Vaccination and immunisation of children under five and of school age is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners of the parents choice or by the County Medical Officer.

The Vaccination of adults is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners.

- (viii) Ambulance Service.
- (ix) Prevention of Illness, Care and after care of persons suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness and other types of illness is organised under the aegis of the County Health Committee.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. No difficulties on water supplies occurred throughout the year.

The main source of the supply administered by the Council the source of which is the River Ithon was efficiently maintained and the purification by mechanical filtration and chlorination was satisfactory as shown by the tabulation of Analysts report tabulated in Table 3.

Chlorination is maintained to give a free chlorine content of between 0.08 and 0.15 p.p.m. after 30 minutes contact.

The ph value of the water is maintained at neutral by the injection of soda ash.

The two service reservoirs have been maintained in good condition.

Fourteen house service pipes were renewed, this being made necessary by blockage due to corrosion in every case. This renewal proved satisfactory.

Statistics in respect of the Water Supply are detailed below:-

Estimated Population supplied from public water mains 3256
Estimated Population not supplied from public water mains.. 30 persons
Number of dwelling houses or flats supplied direct into premises.....1019 dwellings
Number of dwelling houses and farms supplied by means of stand pipes..... 20 dwellings
Estimated population supplied..... 60 persons
Number of premises (farms) with own piped supplies..... 3
Number of premises (farms) with no piped supply 2
Premises supplied from mains and outside Urban District..... 11
Estimated population supplied " " "153 persons

TABLE 3.

Bacteriological Analysis for the year 1952 carried out by H. J. Evans, Public Analyst, Bank Lane, Carmarthen.

Water taken from domestic taps:-

Date of Sample	No. of Organisms 48 hours at 22 C.	Coli Present in C.Cs. 100;50;25;20;10;5;1;	Remarks
21.1.52	99	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
3.3.52	77	Nil	" "
26.6.52	109	13+	Unsatisfactory
10.6.52	3	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
15.7.52	19	3	Suspicious
2.8.52	25	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
14.10.52	29	Nil	" "

No chemical analysis of the Town Supply was carried out during the year.

TABLE 4.

Water consumption. (All consumers, including Trades)

Year.	Water Pumped to Service Reservoirs.	Estimated Population Served.	Estimated Consumption per head per day.
1945	77,700,000	Not known	Not known
1946	68,630,000	3,000	62
1947	66,410,000	3,150	57
1948	64,100,000	3,500	50.1
1949	67,490,000	3,438	51
1950	62,010,000	3,586	44.6
1951	67,690,000	3,250 (Census)	48.7
1952	66,710,000	3,286	38.9

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Drainage. The drainage of the town is on the partial separate system, a large volume of the road waters and a certain volume of roof and yard waters being drained separately into suitably placed water courses.

No flooding of premises occurred. No defects of any extent took place and minor blockages in subsidiary branch sewers were the only troubles arising. A blockage of one sewer was eventually traced to a post office telephone staybar having been driven through the sewer.

The sewer system proved adequate and no proposals were under consideration for the construction of relief or other sewers.

Sewerage Disposal. The three sewerage disposal works dealt with the purification of sewage to give effluents of moderate condition.

A complete overhaul of one small disposal plant was carried out, septic tank being emptied and new Filter medium put into filter.

Remarks.

Rivers and Streams. No action taken in regard to pollution. Examinations were carried out of water courses passing through the town and of known outlets of septic tanks connected to houses outside the Urban District. No pollution of any extent was found.

Public Cleansing. Collection of household and trade refuse proceeded as in other years by the Council's own staff and vehicles. The method of collection remained the same.

Disposal of refuse was continued by incineration during the months of May to October and by tipping at Llanfawr Fields from November to April.

The collection of waste paper was maintained, the tonnage of paper sold being 51 tons 3 cwt.

Scrap iron disposed of was 37 tons.

FOOD.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

Residential Designated Traders	-	1
Residential Registered Ungraders Retailers	-	1
" Dairywomen Ungraded Retailers	-	1
Non Residential Dairywomen Ungraded	-	1
" " " Designated	-	6
Visits to Cowsheds during year	-	Nil
Visits to Dairies during year	-	6
Action taken by the Council in respect of unclean milk	-	2 Letters to County N.A.S.

Samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Shrewsbury, the results being as follows:-

Samples for Tuberculosis - Samples taken - Nil
 Results - Nil
Samples for Methylene Blue Test. Samples taken - 58
 Results - Samples satisfying test - 51. Not satisfying- 7
Samples of Ice-Cream. Samples taken - Nil
Inspection of Ice-cream Retailers - 14

Meat Inspection. The centralised slaughtering of cattle, sheep and pigs was continued by the Ministry of Food at the Gordon House Slaughterhouse in the middle of the town.

ANIMALS KILLED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	<u>Cattle excluding cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep & Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number killed	185		22		202
Number inspected	185		12	2842	202
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	2	8	28	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	1 43/2	-	-	310	15
Percentage of Number Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	24.3%		66.6%	11.9%	8.4%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	2	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	4	-	-	-	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	3.24%		-	-	3.9%

SHOPS Inspections have been carried out by the Sanitary Inspector of Shops and food preparing places including bakehouses, restaurants and hotel kitchens as shown in the Summary of Work by the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Number of Inspections of Shops	-	35
" " " " Bakehouses	-	12
" " " " Food preparation	-	20

Foods surrendered or condemned and destroyed.

Canned Foods including fish	-	164 tins
Tinned Milk	-	31 tins
Tinned Meats	-	33 tins
Fruit and Vegetables	-	23 lbs.

Byelaws for Handling etc. of Food. These byelaws came into force in January, 1951. No enforcement action has been taken under byelaws.

Ice-Cream. Inspections of premises registered for the preparation of ice-cream and for the storage for sale of ice-cream were carried on throughout the year.

Number registered:-

Preparation of Hot Mix Treatment	-	Nil
" " Cold Mix Treatment	-	1
Storage for Sale	-	14
Inspection of Ice-Cream shops	-	14

Adulteration of Foods. The administration of the Acts dealing with the adulteration of food is carried out by the officers of the Radnorshire County Council and no particulars are available to my Council.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks. No cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Cases of notifiable infectious disease occurred during the twelve months. No cases were transferred to Isolation Hospitals and the cases arising were isolated at home.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1952

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyreia	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Other Diseases notifiable	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Chicken Pox	65	-	-
	67	Nil	1

Inspections carried out in respect of infectious diseases - 3

Rooms fumigated for Infectious diseases or otherwise - 2

Cancer. No action taken.

Blindness. No action taken.

Tuberculosis. The requirements of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, have been carried out.

No action has been taken under the special powers given to local authorities under these Regulations.

No applications were made under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1952.

Age Groups	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F. M.	Non-Respiratory F.		Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F. M.	Non-Respiratory F.	
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and up	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year was - 45 as follows:-

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>No.</u>
Under 1 year	27
Age 1 year	14
Age 2 years	1
Age 3 years	1
Age 4 years	-
Age 5 to 9 years)	1
Age 10 to 14 years)	1
	<u>45</u>

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health and Housing Acts)	45
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	57
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation.	Nil
(b) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal action	20
(c) Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	2
(d) Number of Statutory Notices issued requiring remedy of housing defects.	Nil
(e) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of Statutory Notices.	Nil
(f) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which complaints made to Justices.	Nil
(g) Result of complaint to Justices.	Nil
(h) Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1951.	Nil.
(i) Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1952.	Nil.

No additional cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

Properties held under requisition for housing of inadequately housed at end of year - 1

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

- (a) By Council with State Grant - Nil
- (b) By private persons - 5

Number of new houses under construction at end of year:-

- (a) By Council with State Grant - Nil
- (b) By private persons - Nil

Number of new dwellings provided during year by conversion of properties into flats:-

- (a) By Council - Nil
- (b) By private persons - 13

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Total number of Inspections and Visits made - 424

Nuisances.

No of visits re. nuisances
Visits re. works in progress
Notices issued
(a) Informal letters
(b) Informal Notices
(c) Statutory Notices
Notices and letters complied
with
Outstanding
Legal Proceedings

19 Moveable Dwellings.
6
No. Registered
17
Nil Bakehouses.
Nil
No. in use
17 No. of inspections
Nil
Nil Lodging Houses.

2

5
10

Housing.

No. Registered Nil

Inspections as per report

57 Water Supply.

Food Preparing Places.

No. of samples taken 7
No. found polluted 2

No. of Inspections

20 Houses and flats connected
to supply 1039

Slaughter Houses.

New houses connected 5
New connections to houses 14

No. of visits (approx.)

130

No. of Condemnations

426

Infectious Diseases.

Foods.

No. of enquiries 3
No. taken to hospital Nil

No. of seizures of unsound
food

Nil

No. of houses disinfected 2

No. of condemnations

24

No. of houses disinfected re.
fleas, lice, etc. Nil

Dairymen.

House Drainage.

No. of Registered

2

No. laid or relaid 8

No. of Inspections

6

No. cleansed 32

No. of Retailers

10

No. of milk samples for T. B.

Nil

Water Closets, etc.

No. of " " found to
produce T.B.

Nil

No. improved or repaired 5

No. of enquiries under P.H.A.

Nil

No. of bucket closets in
district 8

Regulations re. Contacts

Nil

No. of milk samples for blue test

58

No. of cesspools in district 2

No. of " " not conforming
with blue test

7

No. of earth closets in
district. 2

Dairies.

No. of Registered Traders

2

No. of Inspections

6

Camping Sites.

1. Number of sites in area for camping purposes under canvas
during 1952..... 1
2. Number of Caravan Camping sites..... 3
3. Number of Camping sites requiring to be licenced in
accordance with Public Health Act..... Nil
4. Number of Caravan Camping Sites licenced under Public
Health Act..... 1
5. Estimated maximum number of Campers in the area at one
time during 1952..... 12

Smoke Abatement. No action required.

Swimming Baths and Pools. There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the town not open for Public use during the summer.

Visits of inspection made - 3
Tests for chlorination - 2

It was found that the purification and filtration plant was efficiently worked and purification was satisfactory with possible over chlorination.

Rodent Control Work.

Premises.

Number of inspections made	-	629
Premises found infested	-	57
Treatments carried out by Council	-	38
Treatments carried out by occupier	-	19
Dead rats picked up	-	106

Sewer Treatments. Maintenance treatment of Sewers was carried out in 1952.

52 manholes were baited.

3 manholes showed presence of rats.

3 manholes showed poison bait takes.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Total Number of Inspections and Visits made - 417.

Nuisances.

No. of visits re. nuisances	10	No. of milk samples for blue test	8
Visits re. works in progress	4	No. of -do- not conforming with blue test	Nil
Notices issued			
(a) Informal letters	8		
(b) Informal Notices	4	<u>Dairies.</u>	
(c) Statutory Notices	Nil	No. Registered	2
Notices issued in 1949		No. of Inspections	3
complied with	2	<u>Moveable Dwellings</u>	
Notices and letters complied with	8	No. Registered	2
Outstanding	Nil	<u>Bakehouses.</u>	
Legal Proceedings	Nil	No. in use	5
		No. of inspections	7

Housing.

Inspections as per report	96	<u>Lodging Houses.</u>	
		No. Registered	Nil

Food Preparing Places.

No. of inspections	36	<u>Water Supply.</u>	
		No. of samples taken.	10

Slaughter Houses etc.

No. of visits (approx)	150	No. found polluted	1
No. of condemnations	263	Houses and flats connected to supply	1013
		New houses connected	5
		New connections to houses	6

Foods.

No. of seizures of unsound food	Nil		
No. of condemnations	42	<u>Infectious Diseases.</u>	

		No. of enquiries	17
		No. taken to hospital	Nil
	4	No. of houses disinfected	1
	2	No. of houses disinfected re. fleas, lice etc.	1

Dairymen.

No. of Registered	4		
No. of inspections	2		
No. of Retailers	6		
No. of Milk samples for T.B.	8		
No. of -do- found to produce T.B.	Nil.		
No. of enquiries under P.H.A. Regulations re. Contacts	4		

House Drainage.

No. laid or relaid	5
No. cleansed	26

Water Closets etc.

No. improved or repaired	3
No. of bucket closets in district	8
No. of cesspools in district	1
No. of earth closets in district	2

Camping Sites.

1. Number of sites in area for camping purposes under canvas during 1950	1
2. Number of Caravan Camping sites	3
3. Number of Camping sites requiring to be licenced in accordance with Public Health Act	Nil
4. Number of Caravan Camping Sites licenced under Public Health Act	1
5. Estimated maximum number of Campers in the area at one time during 1950	30

Smoke Abatement. Action was taken in one case in respect of nuisance from smoke. Arrangements were made for the use of better quality coal in the boiler.

Swimming Baths and Pools. There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the town and it was in general use during the summer period.

Visits of inspection made	-	15
Tests for chlorination	-	15

It was found that the purification and filtration plant was efficiently worked and purification was satisfactory with possible over chlorination.

Rodent Control Work.

Premises.

No. of Inspections made	-	312
Premises found infested	-	72
Treatments carried out	-	72
Dead Rats picked up	-	61

Sewer Treatments. Maintenance treatment of Sewers was carried out in November, 1950.

52 manholes were baited.

5	"	shewed presence of rats.
5	"	shewed poison bait takes.